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<b>(21) International Application Number:</b> PCT/NL95/00370 <b>(22) International Filing Date:</b> 26 October 1995 (26.10.95)  <b>(30) Priority Data:</b> 94203205.3 3 November 1994 (03.11.94) EP <b>(34) Countries for which the regional or international application was filed:</b> AT et al.  <b>(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US):</b> BOEHRINGER MANNHEIM GMBH [DE/DE]; Sandhofer Strasse 116, D-68298 Mannheim (DE).  <b>(72) Inventor; and</b> <b>(75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only):</b> SWAAK, Anthonius, Josef, Gerardus [NL/NL]; Kralingseweg 322, NL-3066 RB Rotterdam (NL).  <b>(74) Agent:</b> SMULDERS, Th., A., H., J.; Vereenigde Octrooibureaux, Nieuwe Parklaan 97, NL-2587 BN The Hague (NL).		<b>(81) Designated States:</b> AU, BG, BR, BY, CA, CN, CZ, EE, FI, GE, HU, JP, KR, LT, LV, MD, MX, NO, NZ, PL, RU, SI, SK, UA, US, European patent (AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE).  <b>Published</b> <i>With international search report. Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of amendments.</i>
<b>(54) Title:</b> USE OF ERYTHROPOIETIN IN THE TREATMENT OF RHEUMATOID ARTHRITIS  <b>(57) Abstract</b>  A novel use of the known protein Erythropoietin (EPO) and/or a derivative and/or a fragment thereof is disclosed. EPO is used as a pharmaceutical for the treatment of chronic inflammations. A particularly beneficial result is seen in patients suffering from rheumatoid arthritis (RA). Significant effects are seen in clinical variables such as morning stiffness, swollen joints, and the like.		